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PUBLIC FORUM

Editor

Roswell Daily Record

In this column Sunday was a letter from a Mr. Thompson, who stated that another letter of last "Thursday" column was "ridiculous, stupid, and fascist", and goes on to say that this paper should seek the truth, not stir up trouble.

In America we have always practiced the method of openly discussing a problem, hearing both sides of the story before arriving at a conclusion, for how else can you be sure that what you believe is true if you are uninformed of the other side? The first amendment of our Constitution guarantees that "Congress shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech or of the press." I believe that the Founding Fathers of our great nation inserted this in our Constitution because they knew that every man, no matter how humble his station in life, has an opinion and wants to be heard, right or wrong, rich or poor. Just because he feels differently than you does not make him "ridiculous, stupid, or fascist."

Next he states that the John Birch Society is a bunch of "fascists and crackpots". True, he may not agree with the policies of the John Birch Society, but I am sure that the John Birch Society does not agree with his policies.

He next states that we should give aid to Communist countries because our great wealth has caused them to choose democratically under a Communist people's government. I challenge him to name ONE country which has chosen truly democratically since World War II, before the U.S.S.R. has threatened the use of war, sent troops to that country, or thoroughly infiltrated that country, to become Communist. Just one is all I ask.

Now he says that the Communist Party poses no threat to the United States from within, merely because there are only a handful of them. True, there is not an endless supply of them here, but you can be sure that what there is knows exactly what to do in case of war or is in a very strategically

plated position. You may observe that in a complex computing machine, it only takes one delicate part to not function properly for the whole machine to go completely out.

Then he states that we should try to understand the Communist Party in the United States because they are just another political party. How many other political parties in the United States advocate the violent overthrow of our government, the best working government ever conceived by the minds of men since man first appeared on the face of this planet?

Next I find a statement which says that if the F.B.I. and the C.I.A. were doubled we would end up with a police-state. May I point out to you Sir that these agencies are for our protection; and without security we have nothing, for if we do not know who our enemies are we might as well elect Khrushchev president in 1964!

Most citizens over 21 prevent our country from becoming a police-state by voting at every opportunity offered to them. Maybe we cannot blame the Communists for everything, but only by keeping the public accurately informed of the subversive activities which the Party is participating in may we keep the public alert!

So he says that we should print the dangers of war. Why not print the dangers of Communism?

Now he jumps off on some tangent about Patrick Henry not having an atom bomb to face. I think that this remark has something to do with the framing of the Constitution. If Mr. Thompson would look closer into his history book he would find that Patrick Henry was against the Constitution of the United States.

Back to the subject. Maybe Patrick Henry did not have this problem, but I did not realize that pride, patriotism, and the decent integrity of free men had changed so radically in the past 300 years. Henry stated, "Give me liberty, or give me death". Life in the Soviet Union is not really life, but merely an existence. So now our choice is between liberty and existence. In liberty there is re-

spect for the individual person and a chance for all to advance. In the Communist type of existence, there is only a shell of a man living only as of habit, not for himself, but for the state. If you want to live under Communist conditions, Sir, you may leave our country at any time you choose. If you want to be a slave, that is your business.

Now he says that if we compromise, there will not be a great threat of war. Here I must agree. To Khrushchev or one of his puppets, the word compromise means what will you give me if I will not start trouble? After a few years of this we would not have any resources with which to resist, so how could there be war, Khrushchev could just walk in.

He stated that the Soviets do not want war. As I stated above, why should she risk war if she can get what she wants through talking endlessly about nothing and signing pieces of paper known as treaties? Since World War II, the U.S.S.R. has made approximately 55 treaties with the West, out of which she has kept about two! How can you deal with a country that has no integrity?

Now he says we should scrap our Constitution for one which outlaws the atom bomb and missiles. This is fine, but what does he propose to do if the U.S.S.R. does not do this also? How long do you think we would last without thermonuclear weapons and guided missiles?

What your letter adds up to Mr. Thompson, is that you are a Communist's dream.

I am not saying that you are ridiculous, stupid, or fascist Mr. Thompson, just slightly uninformed or seeing only what you want to see.

Oh, yes, one thing I left out. He said he was going to pray for peace. Why don't we pray for freedom first?

Sincerely,

Rowland Green

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